

REMARKS

In the November 17, 2004 Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 16-25 and 27-30 were pending in the application; objected to claim 22 because it was deemed "not clear"; and rejected claims 16-25 and 27-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e). In rejecting the claims, U.S. Patent 6,295,449 to Westerlage et al. (Reference A) was cited. Claims 16-25 and 27-30 remain in the case. The Examiner's objection and rejections are traversed below.

Objection to Claim 22

In item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 22 because it was deemed "not clear." As discussed at the Examiner Interview on November 29, 2004, the word --application-- has been added between "for" and "when" in claim 22. Therefore, withdrawal of the objection to claim 22 is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

In item 3 on pages 2-6 of the Office Action, claims 16-25 and 27-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Westerlage et al. Specifically, it was asserted that the signal processing unit recited in claim 16 was anticipated by the microprocessor(s) 246 illustrated in Fig. 7 and described at column 16, lines 25-45 of Westerlage et al. However, as discussed at the November 29, 2004 Examiner Interview, Westerlage et al. does not disclose recording "selected input signals at predetermined intermittent times" (claim 16, lines 9-10). The word "intermittent" has been added as suggested by the Examiner to clarify that unlike the telephone numbers and voice mail messages stored by the system taught by Westerlage et al., a system according to the invention records selected signals at intermittent times, based on "recording rules defined in advance by the control center" (claim 16, lines 10-11).

For the above reasons, it is submitted that claim 16 and claims 17-25 and 27-30 which depend therefrom patentably distinguish over Westerlage et al. for the reasons discussed above.

Summary

It is submitted that Westerlage et al. does not teach or suggest the features of the present claimed invention. Thus, it is submitted that claims 16-25 and 27-30 are in a condition suitable for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

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If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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